

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND DIVISION**

LIMELIGHT NETWORKS, INC.,

Plaintiff and Counterclaim
Defendant,

v.

XO COMMUNICATIONS, LLC.,

Defendant,

AKAMAI TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Defendant and Counterclaim
Plaintiff,

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY,

Counterclaim Plaintiff.

Case No. 3:15cv720-JAG

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**LIMELIGHT NETWORKS, INC.'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT'S
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL**

Pursuant to Local Rule 5, Plaintiff and Counterclaim Defendant Limelight Networks, Inc. ("Limelight") by and through undersigned counsel, hereby files this Response to Defendant's Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal. In Response to and in support of Akamai Technologies, Inc.'s ("Akamai's") Motion, Limelight states as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Local Rule 5 of the Rules of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Limelight files its Response to Defendant's Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal. On April 7, 2017, Akamai filed Akamai Technologies, Inc.'s Memorandum in Support of its Additional Motions in Limine and several exhibits that it seeks to

seal (collectively “Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3”). From among the materials Akamai seeks to seal, only the **Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3**, which includes excerpts of the Deposition of George E. Vonderhaar, dated August 30, 2016, and excerpts of the Deposition of James Todd, dated August 12, 2016, contain highly confidential Limelight information. The **Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3** quote from and reproduce sections of highly confidential and competitively sensitive financial and business information produced by Limelight in discovery. The disclosure of Limelight’s highly confidential competitively sensitive financial and business information in the Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3 would put Limelight at a competitive disadvantage in the future, both with respect to Akamai and with respect to other competitors and other interested entities.

For these reasons and because Limelight does not oppose Akamai’s request to seal other materials Akamai seeks to seal relating to its Brief, and pursuant to the authorities set forth below, Limelight also respectfully requests that the Court grant Akamai’s request for leave to file under seal the Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3.

II. ARGUMENT

Documents should be sealed when a party’s interest in keeping the information contained therein confidential outweighs the right of public access to judicial documents. *See, e.g. Stone v. Univ. of Maryland Med. Sys. Corp.*, 855 F.2d 178, 180 (4th Cir. 1988); *Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc.*, 218 F.3d 288, 302 (4th Cir. 2000). The Fourth Circuit has held that before a district court may seal any court documents, it must “provide public notice of the request to seal and allow interested parties a reasonable opportunity to object,” “consider less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents,” and “provide specific reasons and factual findings supporting its

decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives.” *Ashcraft*, 218 F.3d at 302. Akamai electronically filed contemporary Notice of its Motion, which provides the public with an opportunity to bring objections to sealing the documents that are the subject of this Motion to Seal. The Fourth Circuit has held that individual notice is unwarranted and that docketing notice reasonably in advance of deciding the issue is appropriate. *In re Knight Pub. Co.*, 743 F.2d 231, 235 (4th Cir. 1984).

Fourth Circuit precedent states that district courts should consider the following factors when determining whether to exercise their discretion to seal documents: (1) “whether the records are sought for improper purposes, such as promoting public scandals or unfairly gaining a business advantage;” (2) “whether release would enhance the public's understanding of an important historical event; and” (3) “whether the public has already had access to the information contained in the records.” *Va. Dept. of State Police v. Wash. Post*, 386 F.3d 567, 575 (4th Cir. 2004).

Here, Limelight’s interest in maintaining the confidentiality of the information contained in the **Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3** outweighs the public's right of access to judicial documents: (1) the information sought to be sealed likely can and will be used for an improper purpose, such as unfairly gaining a business advantage; (2) the release of the information in the **Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3** would not enhance the public's understanding of an important historical event; and (3) the public has not already had access to the proprietary information contained in these documents. Moreover, Akamai and Limelight have sought to reasonably limit the amount of information necessary to be filed under seal. That is, Akamai has filed a public redacted copy of its Brief. Also, Limelight is not seeking to seal all of the exhibits to Akamai’s Brief and has specifically identified the Akamai

documents that contain highly confidential Limelight information. However, sealing the highly confidential exhibits identified above is necessary since redactions would “gut the documents substantially and render them useless to the public,” *see, e.g., East West, LLC v. Rahman*, No. 1:11-cv-1380, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 126259, at *8 (E.D. Va. Sept. 4, 2012), and the disclosure of the confidential information contained in the **Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3** would create a substantial risk of serious harm that cannot be avoided by any less restrictive means. Finally, this Court has already sealed documents containing similar confidential information. *See* D.I. 116, D.I. 120.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and because Limelight does not oppose Akamai’s request to seal other materials related to its Brief, Limelight respectfully requests that the Court grant Akamai’s Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal, and enter an order permitting Akamai to file under seal the Confidential Akamai Suppl. MILs and Exhibits 1 and 3.

Date: April 14, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Natasha M. Saputo

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 14, 2017, a true copy of the foregoing will be electronically filed with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will then send a notification of such filing (NEF).

/s/ *Natasha M. Saputo*

Natasha M. Saputo